

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests entry of the foregoing amendments prior to examination of this application.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 47-50 will be pending in the application. Claim 47 is being amended to correct grammar and to clarify that the comparison of step (b) correlates to a prognosis. Exemplary support for the amendment to claim 47 exists in the Examples of the specification. Claims 1-46 are being canceled. No new claims are being added.

In the specification, SEQ ID NOS have been inserted into paragraphs on pages 15-16, 18-20 and 27.

None of the foregoing amendments introduces new matter into the application.

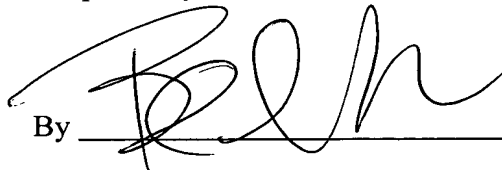
Applicant respectfully requests early and favorable consideration of this application. If the Examiner believes that an interview would advance prosecution of the application, he or she is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

4/2/04

By



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